

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 04235 161017 Z

13

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 INR-09 IO-12 JUSE-00 NSAE-00

RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-07 TRSE-00 USIA-12 NSC-10 SCI-06

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO BNDD HQS WASHDC IMMEDIATE
SECSTATE WASHDC 1499

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BNDD

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: SNAR

SUBJECT: SNO SEIZURE IN NORTHWEST THAILAND

HQS PASS MR BELK, IA; MR DURKIN, ENCC ; AND MR WARNER, SIO
FROM DICK

1. INFORMATION WAS MADE AVILABLE TO SNO REGARDING THE
STORAGE OF OPIUM AND A POSSIBLE LABORATORY SITE AT MAE HUE
VILLAGE, DISTRICT OF MAE CHAN, LOCATED NORTHWEST OF MAE
RIM, NEAR BAN YANG. THE INFORMATION FURTHER DESCRIBED TWO
SPECIFIC BUILDINGS INVOLVED.

2. ON 16 MARCH AT 1030 HOURS A JOINT FORCE OB BPP (BORDER
PATROL POLICE), SNO, AND THE ACTING SAIC OF THE BNDD CHIANG
MAI DISTRICT OFFICE LANDED AT THE VILLAGE VIA TWO PAD (POLICE
AIR DIVISION) HELICOPTERS WHICH PROVIDED AIR SUPPORT.

3. ONCE ON THE GROUND AND APPROACHING THE VILLAGE, THE FORCE
CAME UNDER SMALL ARMS FIRE. THE BPP AND SNO RETURNED THE
FIRE AND ATTACKERS (BELIEVED BY THE BPP TO BE CHINESE
HAW TRADERS) FLED INTO THE JUNGLE. THE ATTACKERS
REGROUPED AT THE EDGE OF THE JUNGLE AND BEGAN FIRING

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PAGE 02 BANGKO 04235 161017 Z

AGAIN. THE BPP ASSAULTED THE POSITION AND THE ATTACKERS
FLED INTO THE JUNGLE, PURSUED BY THE BPP.

4. SNO COMMENCED A SEARCH OF THE TWO BUILDINGS. IN
THE HOUSE OF LAO SANG THEY SEIZED 66 KILOS OF RAW OPIUM,
A HK-33 AUTOMATIC RIFLE AND 3,800 ROUNDS OF AMMUNITION.
IN THE HOUSE OF SANG SHENG SANG THEY SEIZED 2.5 KILOS OF
#3 HEROIN AND A SMALL SUPPLY OF CHEMICALS AND THREE
DEFENDANTS WERE ARRESTED.

5. DURING THE SEARCH AND SEIZURE BY SNO IN THE VILLAGE,
ONE OF THE PAD HELICOPTERS TOOK OFF TO ASSIST THE BPP
IN SEARCHING FOR THE ATTACKERS. DURING THE AIRBORNE
SEARCH THE HELICOPTER TOOK A SINGLE ROUND OF SMALL ARMS
FIRE IN THE GAS TANK AND WAS FORCED TO RETURN.

6. SHORTLY THEREAFTER, THE BPP PERIMETER DEFENSE SPOTTED
THE REGROUPED ATTACKERS WHOOPENED FIRE FROM THE EDGE
OF THE JUNGLE. THE BPP RETURNED FIRE, STORMED THE
POSITION AND FOUND AN ABANDONED M-1 RIFLE.

7. THE JOINT FORCE, ALONG WITH THE SEIZURE, DEFENDANTS
AND HELICOPTERS RETURNED SAFELY. THERE WERE NO REPEAT
NO CASUALTIES OR INJURIES. EQUIPMENT DAMAGE WAS LIMITED
TO ONE BULLET HOLE IN THE GAS TANK OF ONE OF THE PAD
HELICOPTERS.

8. THE BNDD SAIC COMMENTS THAT THE COURAGE AND
AGGRESSIVENESS OF BOTH THE BPP AND SNO PERSONNEL
WHILE UNDER FIRE WAS OUTSTANDING.
DECONTROL BY BNDD ONLY UPON RECEIPT.
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